

the Chatterbox

Autumn 2009



www.myhamiltoncountyparks.com

Administrative Office • 317-770-4400

Director
Allen Patterson
allen.patterson@hamiltoncounty.in.gov

Deputy Director
Christopher Stice
chris.stice@hamiltoncounty.in.gov

Marketing and Event Specialist
Michele Arndt
michele.arndt@hamiltoncounty.in.gov

Volunteer and Resource Development Specialist
Kurtis Baumgartner
kurtis.baumgartner@hamiltoncounty.in.gov

Office Manager
Alesa Cox
alesa.cox@hamiltoncounty.in.gov

Administrative Assistant
Tawny Amburgey
tawny.amburgey@hamiltoncounty.in.gov

Cool Creek Nature Center • 317-774-2500

Superintendent of Natural Resources and Education
Amanda Smith
amanda.smith@hamiltoncounty.in.gov

Naturalist
Megan Gutierrez
megan.gutierrez@hamiltoncounty.in.gov

Naturalist
Dan Popiela
dan.popiela@hamiltoncounty.in.gov

Maintenance • 317-774-2505

Sean Schnaiter
Facilities and Grounds Manager
sean.schnaiter@hamiltoncounty.in.gov

Taylor Center of Natural History • 317-984-5556

Regional Park Manager
Bruce Oldham
bruce.oldham@hamiltoncounty.in.gov

Coxhall Gardens • 317-817-0311

Gary Knowlton
Park Manager
gary.knowlton@hamiltoncounty.in.gov

Hamilton County Commissioners

Christine Altman
Steven Holt
Steven Dillinger

Hamilton County Council

John Hiatt
Steve Schwartz
Meredith Carter
Judy Levine
Rick McKinney
Brad Beaver
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Mission Statement

The Hamilton County Parks and Recreation Department shall exist to serve the leisure and recreational needs of the residents and tourists of the county. We will strive to be the leader in providing well-maintained, high-quality passive parks and facilities, excellent programs and services, and the preservation of greenspace to enhance the quality of life in the county.

Park Board Meetings

Hamilton County Parks and Recreation park board meetings are held the third Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Cool Creek Nature Center Auditorium, located at 2000-1 East 151st Street in Carmel. The meetings are open to the public.

Park Hours

All parks operated by Hamilton County Parks and Recreation are open 365 days a year from dawn to dusk. Some sections of the park may be closed due to special events or shelter reservations. Please refer to *The Chatterbox* or call the administration office.

The Chatterbox is distributed in March, June, September, and December. If you would like to be on our mailing list or have an address change, please call the Administration Office at 317-770-4400.

Proud member of:



For info on other parks visit:
www.hampa.org www.inpra.org

Director's Dialog

Greetings and welcome to the Fall 2009 *Chatterbox*. I know I say this every year, but fall is my favorite time of year. The temperatures are coming down, the colors are changing in the landscapes, crisp evenings are great for an outdoor fire pit, football, and all of the wonderful fall events and festivals all over our great county, as well as the whole state. Fall is the time to get out and enjoy life with your family and friends. If the spring was too wet, and the summer was too hot, fall should be just right.



As is the case each and every fall, your Hamilton County Park and Recreation Department staff is preparing another full schedule of fall events and activities for your enjoyment. We will again be hosting the Potter's Bridge Fall Festival at Hamilton County's last remaining original covered bridge. This event features music, arts, crafts, and food. For more information about attending or being involved in this event please call our office at 317-770-4400. If you are interested in (or think you might be) natural history and archaeology, then you should plan to attend Archaeology Month activities at Strawtown Koteewi Park and the Taylor Center of Natural History. Our staff, along with partners from Indiana Purdue Ft. Wayne, as well as Indiana Department of Natural Resources, and other guests, will be providing hikes, tours and special programming. Call the Taylor Center of Natural History for more information at 317-984-5556. We will also be providing the usual line-up of birding, nature, and specialized hikes and programming. Please read further on in this edition of the *Chatterbox* for more information on the events and activities mentioned above as well as many other topics.

I hope your fall season is enjoyable. Please try to make time in your busy schedules to join us for some fall fun!

See you in the parks,

Al Patterson

Park News

Department Receives Two Awards

Hamilton County Parks and Recreation has been awarded the *Outstanding Contributors in Memory of Jesse and Beulah Cox* by the National Association of County Park and Recreation Officials.

The National Recreation and Parks Association has awarded Hamilton County Parks and Recreation Department Board President, Terry Prather the *William Penn Mott Award for Meritorious Service*. The award will be presented to Mr. Prather at the NRPA Congress and Exposition in Salt Lake City, UT in October.

Campground Playground Has New Safe Surface

The Hamilton County Parks and Recreation Department has completed its playground re-surfacing project at the White River Campground. Funded in part by the Indiana Waste Tire Grant Management Program, over 3,000 Indiana waste tires were utilized for the playground surface and diverted from Indiana landfills.



40 More Acres of Prairie

Strawtown Koteewi Park has installed an additional 40 acres of prairie plantings this spring as efforts continue to restore the park with native Indiana prairie grasses. When completed, the prairie will serve as a premiere grassland habitat for a variety of wildlife species.

Park Foundation to Host Fundraiser at SKP

On Saturday, September 19, the Friends of Hamilton County Parks will host *Digging Though the Past, Building to the Future* at Strawtown Koteewi Park. The event is from 3 - 7 p.m. and will feature food from Nelson's Port-a-Pit Chicken, Miami Nation Drum Circle, archaeology tours, silent auction, vendors and tons of fun for the family! Cost is \$8 per person at the door and \$7 per person, pre-sale. Pre-sale tickets are available at the administration office, Taylor Center of Natural History, and White River Campground.





Park Programs

Cool Creek Nature Center Fall Exhibit: *Autumn Attractions*



Autumn is a beautiful time of year here in Hamilton County! Cool Creek Nature Center is celebrating the season with an exhibit featuring some of the most remarkable aspects of autumn. Discover how leaves change colors, and follow the amazing journey Monarch butterflies begin this time of year. The Wildlife Viewing Area, Greenhouse, free daily crafts, scavenger hunts, and other activities will be available. For more information, please call the Cool Creek Nature Center at 317-774-2500.

Dates: September 14-November 22
Nature Center Closed on: September 7; November 11, 26 and 27

Hours: Monday-Saturday 10:00 a.m. -5:00 p.m.
Sunday 1:00 p.m. -5:00 p.m.

Ages: All
Cost: Free

Strawtown Enclosure-Native American Village Tours

Our interpretive staff will be conducting tours of the Strawtown Enclosure. During these tours, we will discuss the details known thus far regarding the Native Americans who built and used the enclosure and village over 700 years ago. The tours will begin inside the Taylor Center of Natural History. For more information, call us at 317-984-5556.

Dates: Saturdays at 11:00 a.m.; Sundays at 2:00 p.m.

Ages: All

Cost: Free

Pre-registration: No

Note: *There will be no tours on September 19, 26; October 3.*

Puppet Shows with Miss Diane

Miss Diane and her puppet pals will be joining us again this fall. Diane Breier, Children's Entertainer, will be performing puppet shows with nature themes at the Cool Creek Nature Center. You won't want to miss all the fun stories she has ready for you!

Dates: Tuesday, September 22
Tuesday, October 20
Thursday, November 17

Time: 11:00 a.m.

Ages: Best for ages 2-6

Cost: Free

Pre-registration: No

Location: Cool Creek Nature Center, Cool Creek Park

Pajama-Rama

Put on your cutest pair of pajamas, grab your favorite teddy bear, pack up an old blanket, and join us at the Cool Creek Nature Center for Pajama-Rama! Families looking for a fun program to enjoy with their toddlers and preschoolers will enjoy the Music Educator from Moriah Music who will lead us in songs and stories about some of our favorite animals.

Dates: September 4, October 2, and November 6

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Ages: Best for families with children ages 1-7

Cost: Free

Pre-registration: Yes, call 317-774-2500 or email at
cool.naturecenter@hamiltoncounty.in.gov

Location: Cool Creek Nature Center, Cool Creek Park



Strawtown Koteewi Park and the Taylor Center of Natural History

The Taylor Center of Natural History is now open daily! Visitors are invited to discover the colorful local history that stretches thousands of years into the past. Artifacts recovered by professional archaeologists in previous excavations are on display in our exhibit room. Over five miles of trails are open, so don't forget your hiking shoes and sense of adventure! Group tours or presentations can also be arranged by calling 317-984-5556 or 317-774-2500

Hours: Monday and Saturday- 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Sunday- 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Note: The Taylor Center is closed on: September 7;
November 11, 26 and 27



Celebrate Archaeology Month at Strawtown Koteewi Park

Once again this fall, the Indiana Department of Natural Resources Division of Historic Preservation and the Hamilton County Parks and Recreation Department, are proudly sponsoring Archaeology Month. Indiana University Purdue University-Fort Wayne will be on site conducting archaeological surveys which will be open to the public! Also, our interpretive staff will be available for site tours and discussions about the park and the Native American groups who once occupied the area.

Organized groups such as school field trips, scouts, and adult clubs are welcome as well as family and citizen groups. This exciting opportunity is great for all ages and is being offered for a short time only in celebration of Indiana's Archaeology Month. For more information or to pre-register for an archaeology field trip or tour, please call Amanda Smith, Supt. of Natural Resources and Education at 317-774-2500. Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis, so please confirm early. Scheduled tours, including an active archaeological survey, will end at the park on October 3.

Dates: September 15-October 3
Days: Tuesday-Saturday
Time: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Ages: All
Cost: Free
Pre-registration: Yes, 317-774-2501 or email at taylor.center@hamiltoncounty.in.gov



Atlatl Introduction and Throwing

Come join us at Strawtown Koteewi Park and take part in the ancient activity of spear throwing! Atlatls were Native American hunting tools and were used for thousands of years. Erik Vosteen will begin by introducing participants to the equipment and techniques, history, and other interesting tidbits. **Please check in at the Taylor Center's front desk for information regarding atlatl "tee" times.**

Date: Saturday, September 19
Time: 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Ages: All
Cost: Free
Pre-registration: No
Location: Strawtown Koteewi Park

Bird Banding Demonstration

Join Dr. Ron Weiss, Executive Director of the Chipper Woods Bird Observatory, for a fascinating journey into the world of wild birds. Learn techniques that field scientists use to safely capture, handle, and release wild birds, as well as how to examine them to determine their age, sex, health, molt, and feather condition. These techniques are employed every day by scientists around the world to study the lives, ecology, and movements of wild birds in order to generate useful data for conservation of wild birds and their habitats. All birds are safely captured, banded, and released unharmed.

Dates: Saturday, September 19
Saturday, October 24
Saturday, November 14

Time: 1:00 p.m.

Ages: All

Cost: Free

Location: Cool Creek Nature Center, Cool Creek Park

Community Seed Day

If you are looking for some neat landscaping ideas using native Indiana plants, you will not want to miss this program! Guests will be encouraged to collect seeds from the prairie habitat and the native flower beds to use in their landscaping at home. Instructions on seed collecting will be given by the Naturalists.



Date: Saturday, October 10
Time: 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Ages: All
Cost: Free
Pre-registration: No
Location: Cool Creek Park

Indiana Bluebird's Society Annual Meeting

The Indiana Bluebird Society will be holding its annual fall conference. During the conference, Alan Bruner, noted Hoosier bird enthusiast, will be presenting a program about native Indiana birds. His program will include some of Indiana's "hot spots" for viewing a variety of birds. Kathy Hershey, co-founder of Utopia Wildlife Rehabilitation, Inc. will also be speaking about the organization's dedication to providing medical care, educational programs, and information about co-existing with our native wildlife. The conference will also feature a roundtable discussion concerning bluebirds.

Date: Saturday, October 17
Time: 9:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
Cost: Free
Pre-registration: Yes, contact Ted Vesa at 260-248-8636 or via email: tjvesa@earthlink.net
Location: Cool Creek Nature Center, Cool Creek Park

Bats-Myths and Realities



Terri Warne, Bat Rehabilitator and Director of Bat World South Indy will share her love of bats with us. Her program will shed some light on the myths and mysteries surrounding these little creatures and why their role in our ecosystem is so important! Terri will likely be bringing a live, non-releasable bat with her to the program!

Date: Thursday, October 22

Times: 1:00 p.m.

3:30 p.m.

Ages: Best for school aged children

Cost: Free

Pre-registration: No

Location: Cool Creek Nature Center, Cool Creek Park

Adventures in Archaeology



Want to know what archaeology is all about? Get dirty and learn what really goes on in the field with our simulated excavation. Please come dressed for digging!

Date: Friday, October 23

Time: 1:00 p.m.

Ages: 6-13

Cost: Free

Pre-registration: Yes, call 317-984-5556 or email at taylor.center@hamiltoncounty.in.gov

Location: Taylor Center of Natural History, Strawtown Koteewi Park

Creepy Critters



Snakes, tarantulas, and scorpions can give anyone a creepy-crawly feeling! Snakehead Ed isn't afraid of them! He will be sharing these critters with guests of the Cool Creek Nature Center. He will also bust many of the myths people have about these fascinating creatures.

Date: Friday, October 23

Time: 11:00 a.m.

1:00 p.m.

Ages: Best for school aged children

Cost: Free

Pre-registration: No

Location: Cool Creek Nature Center, Cool Creek Park



Spidey Sense!!



The fascinating world of spiders will be shared for visitors as we learn about the spiders found in our area, including the Black Widow! Facts and hands-on activities about spider webs, habitats, and their interesting characteristics will also be featured.

Date: Saturday, October 24

Time: 1:00 p.m.

Ages: All

Cost: Free

Pre-registration: Yes, call 317-984-5556 or email at taylor.center@hamiltoncounty.in.gov

Location: Taylor Center of Natural History, Strawtown Koteewi Park

Fall Folk Crafts



Corn Husk dolls have been made by Northeastern Native Americans for many years. Now is your chance to make one of your own. Join the Taylor Center of Natural History staff as we make corn husk dolls. We will have other Native American inspired crafts to make as well.

Date: Friday, October 30

Time: 1:00 p.m.

Ages: All

Cost: Free

Pre-registration: Yes, by calling 317-984-5556 or e-mail at taylor.center@hamiltoncounty.in.gov

Location: Strawtown Koteewi Park, Taylor Center of Natural History

Open Lab Day

Join us for open lab day! We will have rock and mineral specimens to explore as well as fossils, modern animal bones, and Native American artifacts from our education collection. Taking a look through the microscope, "panning" for fossils in our "riverbed," and trying your hand at identifying specimens are just some of the activities we will have available. To preserve our collections for future visitors, no specimens can go home with you, but everyone will receive a special memento!



Date: Saturday, November 7

Time: 1:00 p.m.

Ages: All

Cost: Free

Pre-registration: No

Location: Strawtown Koteewi Park, Taylor Center of Natural History

Bats of America

Join us and Wild Bird's Unlimited of Carmel as we co-host the Organization of Bat Conservation from Michigan. They will discuss bat habitat, conservation, characteristics, and have live bats to show us! You'll go "batty" if you miss this program!

Dates: Saturday, November 14

Time: 2:00 p.m.

Ages: All

Cost: Free

Pre-registration: No

Location: Cool Creek Park, Cool Creek Nature Center



Collection Identification

Do you have some arrowheads, stone tools, or other Native American artifacts? Join Archaeologist, Jim Mohow, as he helps artifact collectors identify personal collection pieces. When possible, Mr. Mohow will share the dates and stories associated with these fascinating relics of the past and the people who used them.

Date: Saturday, November 14

Time: 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Cost: Free

Location: Strawtown Koteewi Park, Taylor Center of Natural History

2009 COOL CREEK CAMP PICS



Thank you for another great year!
See you next summer!



Special Events

Movies in the Park

Experience movies like the good 'ol days! Grab your blanket and pack up your popcorn for a movie under the summer stars. Join us for our 5th annual outdoor summer movie series for the following shows:

September 11• Bolt

Bolt is a spoiled German Shepherd who is the star of his own action TV show and is living the good life. One day he is accidentally abandoned in his trailer but he truly believes he still has the superpowers from his show. Along the way, he meets some friends who are trying to find their homes and they help him discover his true self.



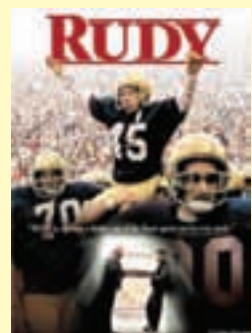
September 18•Journey to the Center of the Earth- 3D!

A scientist whose radical theories have completely tarnished his reputation goes backpacking across Iceland and finds a cave that leads him deep down into the bowels of the planet. He follows it trying to find out what has happened to his missing brother. He discovers a fantastic and dangerous lost world in the center of the earth filled with bizarre landscapes and terrifying creatures. We will provide 3-D glasses for your enjoyment!



September 25•Rudy

The uplifting true story of how one young man, Rudy Ruettiger (Sean Astin), refuses to limit his dreams or bow to reality as he pursues his lifelong goal—to wear the uniform, if only for one down, of the Notre Dame football team.



Time: Dusk

Ages: All

Cost: Free

Location: Cool Creek Park

Answers for Autism Walk and Festival

Tie up your laces and head over to Coxhall Gardens for the Answers for Autism Walk. The one-mile, kid-friendly walk is a great way to support a great cause. After the walk head to the kids festival for some live music, silent auction, arts and crafts, and more fun activities! All proceeds benefit The Autism Advocates of Indiana and will be used for enhancing public awareness of the behaviors, social issues, and emotional needs of people with autism.



Date: Saturday, September 19

Time: Registration begins at 9:00 a.m.
Walk and festival- 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Cost: Walk is \$10 per person
Festival is free

Location: Coxhall Gardens

Registration: www.aaiwalk.org

10th Annual Potter's Bridge Fall Festival

Enjoy a wonderful fall day at Potter's Bridge Park for the 10th Annual Potter's Bridge Fall Festival. Listen to live music, visit the art and craft booths, take your little ones to the kids area and enjoy the natural scenery on the tree hike.

Date: Saturday, October 3

Time: 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Cost: Free

Location: Potter's Bridge Park

Haunted Trails

Make your way through the "boo-tiful" woods of Cool Creek Park for our annual Haunted Trails Halloween event! Ghouls and goblins are lurking at every turn and waiting for you to arrive. After the horrifying experience, gather around the campfire for some story-telling and music. Trail not recommended for kids under 12.

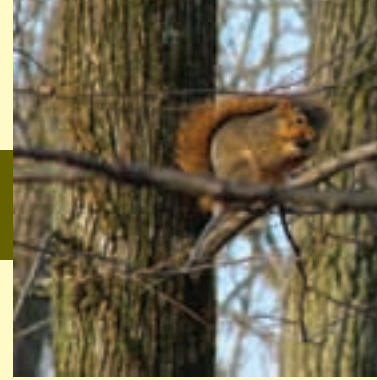
Date: Tuesday, October 27
Wednesday, October 28
Thursday, October 29

Time: 7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

Cost: \$5 per person

Location: Cool Creek Park

White River Campground



Family Fun Nights

Join us at White River Campground for family fun nights! One night a month, we will entertain you and your family. Various entertainers will be there throughout the season to make your stay more enjoyable. For more information, please call the campground at 317-984-2705.

Dates: September 5 Outdoor Movie

Pack up the lawn chairs or blankets and head to the front lawn for an outdoor movie! *School of Rock* featuring Jack Black will be featured in the shelter lawn. Movie begins at dusk.



October 17 Halloween @ WRC

Trick or Treating, campsite decoration contest, and hayrides will be taking over the campground. Bring along your most fearful decor and transform your campsite into a haunted attraction! Bring along some treats for the kiddies as well!

October 24 Year-End Celebration

Let's celebrate another successful camping season with everyone! Head up to the Recreation Room for the annual pitch-in dinner. Ask the friendly gals in the camp store for more information and what to bring!

Time: See camp store at check-in

Ages: All

Cost: Free for campers
Hamilton County visitors are \$1
Non-Hamilton County visitors are \$2

Location: White River Campground

Operating Dates:

April 15- October 31

Location:

11299 East 234th Street
Cicero, IN

Amenities:

100 modern campsites
7 primitive campsites
water, electric & sewer hook-ups
camp store, includes bait and tackle
recreation room
restrooms
shower facility
laundry facility
playground
picnic shelter
White River access

**Reservations are now being accepted
for the 2009 and 2010 camping
season. Please call 317-984-2705 for
your reservation.**

CAMP SITE / FACILITY	DAILY		WEEKLY	
	Hamilton County	Out of County	Hamilton County	Out of County
Full Hook-up	\$18	\$20	\$108	\$120
Electric and Water	\$17	\$19	\$102	\$114
Primitive Site	\$14	\$15	\$84	\$90
Day Visitor	\$1	\$2	N/A	N/A
Recreation Room Rental	\$60	\$70	N/A	N/A
Shelter House Rental	\$60	\$70	N/A	N/A
Boat Launch	\$3	\$5	N/A	N/A
Dump Station	\$5	\$6	N/A	N/A



Nature Hikes

Beginning Bird Hikes

Birds are fascinating and watching them can be an awe-inspiring experience. This is a great opportunity for bird-watchers of all levels. You may begin anytime during the season and come as often as you like. Pre-registration is not required. Don't forget your binoculars!

Cool Creek Park: These hikes meet in the north parking lot of Cool Creek Park; past the Nature Center.

Dates: September 6, 9, 16, 20, 23, 30; October 4, 14, 18, 21, 28; November 1, 15, 18, 25, 29

Days: Wednesday and every other Sunday (with the exception of the first Wednesday of each month)

Time: 8:00 a.m.

Strawtown Koteewi Park: These hikes will meet at the Taylor Center of Natural History.

Dates: September 2; October 7; November 4

Time: 8:30 a.m.

Saturday Morning Fall Migration Bird Hike

Catch a peek at some beautiful birds as they make their annual trip south this fall. The hikes are led by well-known birder, Keith Starling. Hurry! Some birds will not stay around long. After the hike, stop by the nature center's wildlife viewing room for coffee and doughnuts. Don't forget your binoculars! Fall migration bird hikes meet in the north parking lot of Cool Creek Park.

Dates: September 5, 12, 19, 26, and October 3

Time: 8:00 a.m.

Ages: All

Cost: Free

Pre-registration: No

Location: Cool Creek Park

Woodland Fall Wildflower Hike

Walk the trails of Cool Creek Park with our Naturalist, Dan Popiela, in search of fall wildflowers. We will explore both our prairie and forest habitats for these seasonal flowers. We will discuss medicinal and edible attributes of the flowers as well as folklore that may be associated with them. This hike begins inside the Cool Creek Nature Center.

Date: Saturday,
September 5

Time: 11:00 a.m.

Ages: All

Cost: Free

Pre-Registration: No

Location: Cool Creek Park



Spotted Jewelweed

Geocaching Hike

"Cache" in on this hike! Join a Naturalist at Cool Creek Park for a "treasure hunt!" Geocaching is becoming a popular family pastime and is a great excuse to get outside! Come learn how fun geocaching can be and help us hunt down some hidden treasures! If you already own a GPS (Global Positioning System), please bring it. If not, we can share. **Spots are limited to prevent off-trail damage, so sign up today!** Please remember to dress "ready to hike."

Date: Saturday, September 12

Time: 1:00 p.m.

Ages: Best for ages 8 and up

Cost: Free

Pre-registration: Yes, by calling 317-774-2500 or email cool.naturecenter@hamiltoncounty.in.gov

Location: Cool Creek Park



The sweet luxury of autumn is the ripening of the Persimmon fruit. Savored by wildlife and people alike, the gooey fruit is high in sugar and flavor.

Nature at Night

Join us we celebrate the Autumn Equinox, or the first day of fall, one week early. A night time walk around the prairie at Strawtown will give us a chance to practice our owl calls and look for nocturnal animals. We'll learn about the Equinox and make an autumn craft. Dress for an evening outdoors and meet at the Taylor Center of Natural History.



Date: Saturday, September 12
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Ages: Best for school aged children
Cost: Free
Pre-registration: Yes, call 317-984-5556 or email at taylor.center@hamiltoncounty.in.gov
Location: Strawtown Koteewi Park, Taylor Center of Natural History

Star and Satellite Gazing Tours

Join Dr. Ronald Weiss, adjunct professor of Astronomy and Earth Science for Vincennes University, for a fascinating evening of star and satellite watching. Astronomer Dan Malone, of Wabash Valley Astronomical Society, will be assisting Dr. Weiss as the group learns about and attempts to view the stars, planets, constellations, satellites, and deep sky objects that are visible each month. In the event that the sky is cloudy, an indoor astronomy program is planned. You are welcome to bring your own telescope or binoculars, but we ask that pets are left at home. This program will meet near the Taylor Center of Natural History.

Dates: Saturday, September 19 at 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, October 24 at 7:00 p.m.
Saturday, November 14 at 5:30 p.m.
Ages: Best for families with school aged children and adults
Cost: Free
Pre-registration: No
Location: Strawtown Koteewi Park

Night Hike



Become a nocturnal animal; close your eyes and listen for mice; fly from tree to tree without smacking into a branch; howl like a coyote to find the way back to your den. In total darkness, finding your way around can be a challenge... unless you have superior nocturnal adaptations! Discover what it takes to be an owl, bat, or even a raccoon. This hike begins inside the Cool Creek Nature Center.

Date: Thursday, October 22
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Ages: All
Cost: Free
Pre-registration: Yes, call 317-774-2500 or email at cool.naturecenter@hamiltoncounty.in.gov
Location: Cool Creek Park

Fall Colors Tree Hike

Get a sneak peek at the Bray Family Homestead Park as we check out the fleeting beauty of fall! With the help of our Naturalist, you will discover the autumn wonder in the woods of this yet-to-be-developed park. This hike will meet where the barns are located, just as you enter the property off of SR38. For more information about this park, directions, or questions, please call 317-774-2500.

Date: Saturday, October 17
Time: 11:00 a.m.
Ages: All
Cost: Free
Pre-registration: No
Location: Bray Family Homestead Park



Fall migration is winding down in October. Some warblers, like American Redstarts, will linger in our area for the first few weeks of the month.





Rental Facilities



Osprey Pointe Pavilion

Planning a shower, wedding reception, or any other special event? Our indoor rental facility at Morse Park and Beach is looking good and waiting for to you to rent! Osprey Pointe is located on the bank of Morse Reservoir with a beautiful view of the water and sunset. The facility's seating capacity is 101 people and has a kitchenette and restrooms.

Facility Rental Rate:	\$160.50 for 4 hours
Non-resident Rate:	\$240.75 for 4 hours
Additional Hours:	\$42.80 per hour
Damage Deposit:	\$100
Alcohol Deposit:	\$400

Rental Rates include an on-site security guard and use of all tables and chairs.

Coxhall Gardens Centerpiece and Cripe Pavilion

Looking for a beautiful and serene location to hold your upcoming wedding and reception? The Coxhall Gardens Centerpiece is now ready to rent for weddings, wedding receptions, and any other special event you may have on your calendar. Rental is available from April through October.

Three hour Centerpiece rental: \$1,800
 Centerpiece and Cripe Pavilion rental: \$2,500
 Cripe Pavilion rental only: \$2,250

For more information and to rent this facility, please call Ritz Charles at 317-846-9158.



Cripe Pavilion, Coxhall Gardens



Shelter Reservations

Looking to rent a picnic shelter for a family picnic, reunion, or other special event? Shelter reservations are now available online! Please visit www.myhamiltoncountyparks.com and click on the "facilities for rent" link.

Shelter reservations are taken until September 30. After this date, they are available on a first-come, first-serve basis.

At-a-Glance: An Autumn Full of Fun



September

	Monday	Tuesday 1	Wednesday 2	Thursday 3	Friday 4	Saturday 5
			Beginning Bird Hike@ SKP		Pajama Rama	Migration Hike Woodland Hike
6 Beginning Bird Hike Enclosure Tour	7 Facilities Closed	8	9 Beginning Bird Hike	10	11 Movie in the Park	12 Migration Hike Geocaching Hike Night Hike
13 Enclosure Tour	14 Fall Exhibit Begins	15	16 Beginning Bird Hike	17	18 Movie in the Park	19 Autism Walk Star/Satellite Tour Migration Hike
20 Beginning Bird Hike Enclosure Tour	21	22 Puppet Show	23 Beginning Bird Hike	24	25 Movie in the Park	26 Migration Hike
27 Enclosure Tour	28	29	30 Beginning Bird Hike			

October

				1	2 Pajama Rama	3 Fall Festival Migration Hike
4 Beginning Bird Hike Enclosure Tour	5	6	7 Beginning Bird Hike@ SKP	8	9	10 Community Seed Day Enclosure Tour
11 Enclosure Tour	12	13	14 Beginning Bird Hike	15	16	17 Bluebird Conf. Enclosure Tour Fall Colors Hike
18 Beginning Bird Hike Enclosure Tour	19	20 Puppet Show	21 Beginning Bird Hike	22 Bats Program Night Hike	23 Adv. in Archaeology Creepy Critters	24 Spidey Sense Star/Satellite Tour Enclosure Tour
25 Enclosure Tour	26	27 Haunted Trails	28 Haunted Trails Beginning Bird Hike	29 Haunted Trails	30 Fall Folk Crafts	31 Enclosure Tour

November

1 Beginning Bird Hike Enclosure Tour	2	3	4 Beginning Bird Hike @ SKP	5	6 Pajama Rama	7 Open Lab Day Enclosure Tour
8 Enclosure Tour	9	10	11 Facilities Closed	12	13	14 Collection ID Bats Program Star/Satellite Tour Enclosure Tour
15 Beginning Bird Hike Enclosure Tour	16	17 Puppet Show	18 Beginning Bird Hike	19	20	21 Enclosure Tour
22 Beginning Bird Hike 29	23 30	24 31	25 Beginning Bird Hike	26 Facilities Closed	27 Facilities Closed	28 Enclosure Tour

1. Administration Office

15513 South Union Street,
Carmel, 46033
317-770-4400

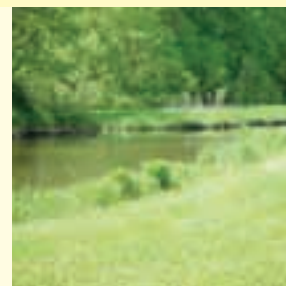
For more information about special events, programs, picnic shelter rentals, and fees or to receive a *Chatterbox* newsletter, call us at 317-770-4400.



5. Geist Park

10979 Florida Rd., Fall Creek
Township

This 17-acre park is nestled along the banks of Fall Creek as it enters Geist Reservoir. It is the perfect spot for wildlife viewing and water recreation, including fishing and canoeing. It is also equipped with a play area, picnic shelter, and restrooms.



2. Bray Family Homestead Park

4528 State Road 38, Noblesville

This new 92-acre park was acquired in 2007 from the Bray Family and is still under development. The development of the park will be limited to trails, overlooks, wildlife feeding areas, and new plantings. Please call 317-770-4400 for more information and up-to-date details on the progress



6. Lafayette Trace Park

Strawtown Avenue East, White
River Township

More than 100-acres of land along the White River Greenway in White River Township is currently under development. Current amenities include a canoe launch and parking lot. Please call 317-770-4400 for more information and up-to-date details on the progress of the park .



3. Cool Creek Park

2000 E.151st Street, Carmel,
46033
317-774-2500, CCNC

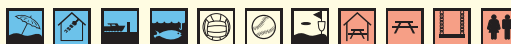
This 90-acre park offers a nature-orientated setting for all seasons. Wooded trails span 3-4 miles of beauty and wildlife. There is a playground area and shelter nearby that can be used while children are at play. Four additional shelters are available for picnicking and rentals. This park also provides a home to the Cool Creek Nature Center and the Cool Concert Series.



7. Morse Park and Beach

19777 Morse Park Lane,
Noblesville, 46060
317-776-9743, Morse Beach

Swim, sunbathe, picnic, fish, and play volleyball at Morse Park and Beach. This 23-acre park is also the home of the Hamilton County Parks and Recreation Department's spring and fall adult softball leagues.



4. Coxhall Gardens

116th and Towne Road, Carmel,
46032

This 125-acre park is one-of-a-kind to the residents, tourists, and visitors of Hamilton County. It includes a children's garden, twin bell towers, centerpiece, lake, and plenty of open space. Future plans include a conservatory, museum, and numerous speciality gardens.



8. Potter's Bridge Park

19401 North Allisonville Road,
Noblesville, 46060

Potter's Covered Bridge, constructed by Josiah Durfee between 1870-71, is the centerpiece of this park. The only remaining covered bridge in Hamilton County, Potter's Bridge was restored in 1999 and surrounded by a 30-acre park. The park also includes a trail that connects to the White River Greenway Trail which runs along the White River.



9. River Road Park

12575 River Road, Carmel, 46033

A two-mile trail, river overlooks, softball and soccer fields, and open space are situated along the banks of the White River at the 63 acre park. An archeological playground, sandbox, and interpretive building are unique attractions designed to educate about native american life.



10. Strawtown Koteewi Park

12308 Strawtown Avenue,
Noblesville, 46060
317-984-5556, Taylor Center

This 750-acre property, which borders 3.25 miles along the White River, is currently under development. Current amenities include the Taylor Center of Natural History, over 5 miles of multi-use trails, and a canoe launch. Please call 317-770-4400 for information and up-to-date details on the progress of the park.



11. White River Campground

11299 East 234th Street, Cicero
317-984-2705
Open April 15 - October 31

White River Campground offers the perfect spot to spend a getaway weekend in Hamilton County. The campground has 106 modern and primitive campsites along the White River with quiet spots for fishing and canoeing. A 55x35 feet picnic shelter is available for rental to large groups. Laundry facilities, showers, restrooms, campstore, recreation room, and playground make camping at White River Campground a pleasant experience.



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Hamilton County Parks and Recreation
15513 South Union Street
Carmel, Indiana 46033

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2009 Cool Creek Concert Series



Thanks for a great season! See you next year!

To sponsor the 2010 series, please contact Kurtis.Baumgartner@hamiltoncounty.in.gov